(d) if so, by when Government are expected to arrive at a decision in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d) A proposal regarding conversion of lease hold system in Delhi into free hold is under consideration.

Rural Employment Programme

582. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the different agencies and programmes under operation at present to provide employment to the rural people;

(b) whether it is proposed to merge all these agencies and programmes into one;

(c) if so, what would be the new agency's name and the outlay provided for it for the year 1989-90; and

(d) the extent of rural employment expected to be generated under this plan during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) The major wage employment programme implemented by the Government till the end of the year 1988-89 were National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP). The Finance Minister in his Budget Speech for the year 1989-90 announced launching of a new Intensive Rural Employment Programme known as Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojana (JNRY). Detailed guidelines for implementation of the programme are being worked out and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss to FCI on account of shortage and transit

583. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the losses incurred by the Food Corporation of India on account of storages and transit during the last three years;

(b) whether these losses are nominal;

(c) what are the yardsticks for deciding the norms and whether the losses are nominal or otherwise; and

(d) what actions have been taken to reduce the losses on these two accounts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHR D. L. BAITHA): (a) Details of transit and storage shortages of foodgrains incurred by Food Corporation of India during 1985-86 to 1987-88 are given below:

(Qty. in lakh—MT)

Year	Storage loss		Transit loss		Total Storage & Transit loss	
	Qty.	% to issues	Qty.	% to transportation	Qty.	% to purchase †Sales
1985-86	1·95	0·47	4·00	1·94	5·95	1.62
1986-87	2·23	0·48	4·28	1·71	6·51	1·63
1987-88	2·05	0·41	4·96	1·93	7·01	1·72

(b) and (c) Taking into consideration the size and nature of operations, multiple handling of foodgrains, deterioration in quality during storage, moisture loss, movement over long distances, theft and pilferage etc. certain shortages are inevitable and cannot be totally eliminated. Food Corporation of India has not fixed any norms for losses so far.

(d) The Food Corporation of India has taken a number of steps to reduce losses on account of storage and transit shortages. Important measures taken in this regard are:

(a) Procurement of foodgrains within the specifications;

(b) Reduction in the quantum of filling in each bag;

(c) Weighment and counting of bags and installation of weigh-bridges in depots having capacity of 5000 tonnes or more;

(d) Minimising the use of open wagons;

(e) Administrative measures such as tightening of security, intensifying surprise checks, quality control etc.

(f) Augmentation of covered storage capacity of FCI.

Construction of houses for slum dwellers

584. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed for slum dwellers during the first four years of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of such houses out of the above constructed in greater Bombay; and

(c) the number of such houses out of above constructed in greater Bombay on the land owned by different departments of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) The present policy of the Government emphasises on environmental improvement of urban slums *in situ* rather than their massive clearance and relocation. Accordingly basic amenities are provided under the State sector scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums, funds for which are provided in the State plans and the State Governments formulate and implement appropriate projects in accordance with their needs and priorities. There is no specific scheme for construction of houses for slum dwellers. Isolated projects for construction of houses for slum dwellers may, however, be taken up by the State Governments wherever appropriate. The project for tackling the housing problem & slums in Bombay with Central non-Plan assistance also contains housing component.

Detection of bogus ration cards in Delhi

585. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bogus ration cards detected during a random check of the fair price shops in Delhi during the last six months;

(b) whether it is a fact that bogus ration cards are issued in collusion with Fair price Shop owners and officers of Civil Supplies Department;

(c) what action Government propose to take to weed out bogus ration cards; and

(d) whether any action has been taken against those found guilty for generating the bogus cards detected in the random check?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BHITHA): (a) to (d) Delhi Administration has stated that the food cards are issued to the eligible applicants on the basis of documentary evidence of residence. Card holders are required to surrender food cards to the Circle Office from where food cards were issued when they move their residence. Sometimes, this is not done